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(When Filled In)

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~~SECRET~~CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Intelligence Information Cable

PRIORITY

COUNTRY BOLIVIA

DISTR. 4 MAY 1965

SUBJECT

THREATENED ROAD BLOCKS BY COCHABAMBA CAMPESINOS UNLESS  
THE MILITARY AGREES TO THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OF  
RENE BARRIENTOS ORTUNAEO 12958 3.4(h)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)EO 12958 3.4(h)(1)>25Yrs REF  
(C)EO 12958 3.4(h)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

1. CAMPESINO LABOR UNIONS FROM THE CLIZA VALLEY ARE NOW THREATENING TO BEGIN BLOCKING ALL ROADS, PRINCIPALLY THE HIGHWAY BETWEEN COCHABAMBA AND SANTA CRUZ AT MIDNIGHT 3 MAY UNLESS THE MILITARY AGREES TO THE CANDIDACY OF GENERAL RENE BARRIENTOS ORTUNA. CAMPESINO LEADERS WERE SEEN ENTERING THE MAYOR'S OFFICE IN COCHABAMBA IN THE EARLY MORNING OF 3 MAY.

2. COMMENT: IT IS BELIEVED THAT BARRIENTOS CAN CALL A HALT TO THE CAMPESINO ACTIONS AT ANY TIME HE PLEASES. PEASANT AGITATORS ARE WORKING FOR BARRIENTOS. THERE IS NO GRIEVANCE OR

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SPONTANEITY IN THIS INSTANCE. IT IS PURELY A POLITICAL MACHINATION.

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PAGE 2

AS HAS BEEN REPORTED, IT WAS THE INTENTION OF THE JUNTA GOVERNMENT TO INITIATE CAMPESINO AGITATION AS A MEANS OF OBTAINING SPONTANEOUS PUBLIC DEMAND FOR BARRIENTOS' CANDIDACY IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT BARRIENTOS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL MERELY PRESIDE OVER FREE AND HONEST ELECTIONS RATHER THAN BE A CANDIDATE. THE POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE SHOULD NOT BE DISCOUNTED, HOWEVER, IF BARRIENTOS' MACHINATIONS ARE NOT SUCCESSFUL.)

3. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR CINCSO.

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